



JOHNSONIAN NEWS LETTER

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JOHNSON NOTES

In our last issue we announced some details of the celebration plans of The Johnsonians: the publication of a book of essays entitled New Light on Dr. Johnson: Essays on the Occasion of his 250th Birthday by Members of The Johnsonians (Yale U. P.), edited by Ted Hilles; and the dinner and exhibition to be held at the Morgan Library in September. Recently we learned from Herman W. Liebert, this year's Chairman of The Johnsonians, that the success of the dinner will be further ensured by the presence of L. F. Powell, who has accepted an invitation to come over from Oxford to be the special guest of honor. Eighteenth-century enthusiasts everywhere have long felt respect for him and gratitude for his many contributions to Johnsonian scholarship, and those fortunate enough to know him personally are devoted to "L. F." The September dinner will indeed be an occasion!

At this point we should like to add that a printed catalogue of the Morgan Library exhibition is now being prepared by Herbert Cahoon, Curator of Autograph Manuscripts, aided by Donald and Mary Hyde. Material for the exhibition will be drawn from the collections of Donald and Mary Hyde, Herman W. Liebert, and the Yale University and Morgan libraries.

Johnsonians abroad have also been busy making plans for celebrations of the 250th anniversary in September. Before he sailed for home, your senior editor, Jim Clifford, sent details of two of these celebrations. The Lichfield Johnson Society is planning a full week of activities. The older shops will have clerks dressed in eighteenth-century costumes for the week. The various schools in Lichfield are preparing dramatic scenes from Johnson's life, in the manner of a popular television show, "This Is Your Life." The Lichfield Amateur Players are going to put on Goldsmith's She Stoops to Conquer. There will be special art exhibitions of Johnson

portraits and prints in the Public Museum and at the Birthplace. During the week the Birthplace will be floodlighted at night. At a special ceremony on the birth date a slip, representing the fourth generation of "Johnson's Willow," will be planted by Stowe Pool. If possible, a small commemorative medallion or button will be given to all the school children, as was done in 1909 at the 200th anniversary. It is hoped that the Lichfield Orchestral Society, of which William Richards is the President, will prepare a concert of eighteenth-century music. As a special guest for the celebration, Sir William Haley, the Editor of the London Times and an ardent Johnsonian, will be honored. And on Sunday morning, September 20, the Dean of St. Paul's, President of the London Johnson Society, will preach in the Cathedral. At the traditional supper on the 19th, which is expected to overflow the Guildhall, Sir John Wedgwood will be installed as president and there will be other proceedings celebrating the fiftieth anniversary of the founding of the Lichfield Society.

The Birmingham celebrations will be supervised by a voluntary committee headed by E. A. Knight, General Secretary of The Council of the Birmingham and Midland Institute, which is taking a leading part in the planning of events. The celebrations will be officially opened on Monday, September 14, with an exhibition of books, manuscripts, and portraits of Johnson and his circle, and an inaugural address by T. J. B. Spencer, Professor of English at Birmingham University. September 15 will offer a schools' evening on "Johnson's England," with an illustrated lecture by Sir Albert Richardson and dances in eighteenth-century costume and music. Other highlights: September 16--dramatic readings in costume by the Crescent Theatre Players; September 17--a symposium on various aspects of Johnson's life; September 18--a dinner, with Sir Sydney Roberts as guest speaker. In deference to Jim Clifford's plans to return to the States in June, the Committee in charge of the Birmingham events invited him to speak in advance of the main celebrations in September. His address, entitled "The Bicentennial of Rasselas," was delivered in The Midland Institute on March 20.

We had hoped in this issue to be able to include the Table of Contents for the volume of essays on Rasselas (Univ. of Cairo) which is being edited by Professor Magdi Wahba (27 Hod el Laban, Garden City, Cairo), but unfortunately we had not heard from him before going to press. We have learned, however, that the volume has reached the stage of galley-proof and assume that it will appear on time to add weight to the birthday celebrations. Wahba is especially to be

commended for the speed with which he has brought together what is truly an international tribute to Johnson. We will surely include more information about the book in our next issue.

A few more nuggets of Johnsonian news. The spring meeting of the Lichfield Johnson Society was held at the Guildhall on Wednesday, March 25. The Chairman, Dr. Hurst, was ill and could not attend, but his Worship the Mayor was in the chair. Mrs. Marjorie Jones of Wolverhampton read a brilliant and delightful paper on "Johnson and Housman." Her discussion of their similarities and differences was thoroughly outstanding. This year the Lichfield group plan to go to Ashbourne for their summer jaunt in June; the Johnson Club of London expect to go to Cambridge for their annual excursion.

From Warren L. Fleischauer (John Carroll Univ.) we have learned of the formation of a new society, The Johnson Society of the Great Lakes Region. When we receive further details we shall pass them along to our readers.

The following articles should be listed: James L. Clifford, "For Candide and Rasselas All Was Not for the Best," N. Y. Times Book Review for April 19; W. Powell Jones, "Johnson and Gray: A Study in Literary Antagonism," MP for May; Gwin J. Kolb, "Johnson Echoes Dryden," MLN for March; Philip Williams, "Samuel Johnson's Central Tension: Faith and the Fear of Death," Journal of Literary Studies (North Japan College, Sendai) for September 1958; "Solitudes of the Great Bear," TLS for March 6 (review of Vol. I of the Yale Johnson). In the American Scholar for Spring Joseph Wood Krutch devotes his feature "If You Don't Mind My Saying So..." to a stimulating comment on two centenaries--Rasselas and The Origin of Species.

SOME NEW AND FORTHCOMING BOOKS

We have read with great pleasure Charles Ryskamp's William Cowper of the Inner Temple, Esquire, A Study of his Life and Works to the Year 1768 (Cambridge). As the sub-title suggests, Ryskamp's purpose has been to examine Cowper's life and works up to the beginning of his Olney period, which is, of course, most familiar to readers and most heavily stressed by biographers. Within these chronological limits Ryskamp has presented a "life," not a "portrait," by setting down the discoverable facts without attempting to enlist them in support of a particular, unified interpretation of the poet. The purpose is admirable, for the common view of Cowper the

shy recluse relapsing periodically into insanity lacks--if nothing else--the variety of its original. The present study provides some of that variety: Cowper here emerges as "an animated, rather worldly young man." Moreover, for the diligent searcher the seeds of his later piety and insanity are apparent.

Ryskamp has unearthed much new information concerning Cowper's life at Westminster and in the Temple, his engagement to Theodora, his alleged hermaphroditism, his failure at the House of Lords, and his insanity. To this reviewer at least, the chapter dealing with Theodora is among the most interesting, for it effectively dispels the impression left by many accounts of the poet--that his relationship with her never touched the deeper levels of his being.

In appendices the author gives for the first time nearly two dozen letters and essays written between 1750 and 1767; nine poems, early and late; five reviews; and two letters to the Gentleman's Magazine; in addition, he identifies Cowper's main literary effort before 1768, a translation of Voltaire's Henriade. In short, Ryskamp has produced a most useful work. Its modest purpose, thorough scholarship, and balanced handling recommend it to your careful attention.

Of interest to everyone concerned with the eighteenth-century novel and with the history of ideas is M. A. Goldberg's Smollett and the Scottish School, Studies in Eighteenth-Century Thought (Univ. of New Mexico). Goldberg's main intention is to evaluate the novels as literary expressions of Smollett's fundamental agreement with the views of the Common-Sense School (Smith, Kames, Blair, Gerard, Hutcheson, Ferguson, et al.), who attempted a reconciliation of the dominant traditions of the age--Hobbes's materialism, Locke's empiricism, the rationalism of Shaftesbury, Clarke, Price, and Godwin. Accordingly, after a preliminary discussion of the beliefs of the School and of Smollett's relationship to it, Goldberg examines each of the novels as an exploration of the antitheses--reason vs. passion, art vs. nature, etc.--generated by these traditions. Smollett emerges from this study not as a humorist writing in the picaresque manner, but rather as a serious observer and commentator exposing the folly of those contemporaries whose extreme positions concerning man blinded them to his true nature. Although Goldberg is aware that "it would certainly be a distortion to insist that any single problem to the exclusion of others is localized within a particular novel," and has in each novel "simply unravelled one essential

thread," an unfortunate immediate effect of his approach is that of oversimplification. Taken as a whole, however, the book is a well-written, thoughtful, and stimulating study.

In our June 1958 number we included comments made by Ted Hilles about Derek Hudson's Sir Joshua Reynolds. Now that we have read the work ourselves, we are pleased to be able to second those comments and to report that an American edition, published by Essential Books, has recently become available.

A new addition to the Rinehart Editions will be of value to those in our field: Burke's Reflections. The text has been carefully edited by William B. Todd (Texas).

We have good news for Swift scholars. A second edition of Teerink's bibliography of Swift will soon be published by the University of Pennsylvania Press from a revised MS. containing detailed bibliographic descriptions which Dr. Teerink has compiled. He is in poor health, however, and A. H. Scouten (Dept. of English, Univ. of Pa.) will see the MS. through the press. Scouten writes that the order of entries has been changed, but that the original numbering of the items will be preserved. He will appreciate any notice of the items missing from the first edition, especially if sent in before July. (N. B. Our apologies to all those engaged in this project: because of limitations of space we were unable to include this item in our March issue. We hope the July deadline is somewhat flexible and urge our readers to submit any missing items promptly).

Scheduled for spring publication is Jim Clifford's very useful collection of essays, Eighteenth-Century Literature: Modern Essays in Criticism (Galaxy Ed., Oxford), a sampling of the best critical and scholarly essays devoted to eighteenth-century literature--to major authors, works, themes, and attitudes.

Some of you may have already seen copies of the following: A. O. Aldridge, Man of Reason: The Life of Thomas Paine (Lippincott); Ralph Arnold, Northern Lights: The Story of Lord Derwentwater (Constable); T. S. Ashton, Economic Fluctuations in England, 1700-1800 (Oxford); A. H. Basson, David Hume (Penguin); Rae Blanchard, ed., Sir Richard Steele's The Lover, The Reader, Town-Talk and Chit-Chat (Oxford); Anthony Blunt, The Art of William Blake (Columbia); S. C. Carpenter, 18th Century Church and People (John Murray); M. L. Clarke, Classical Education in Britain, 1500-1900 (Cambridge); Frederick Copleston, S. J., A History

of Philosophy (Vol. V, Hobbes to Hume) (Newman); Winton Dean, Handel's Dramatic Oratorios and Masques (Oxford); Bonamy Dobrée, English Literature in the Earlier Eighteenth Century (Oxford); Imogen Holst, ed., Henry Purcell 1659-1695 (Oxford); C. S. Emden, Poets in their Letters (Oxford)--includes Pope, Gray, Cowper; Literature and the Other Arts: A Select Bibliography, 1952-1958 (N. Y. Public Library); J. Robert Loy, trans., Diderot, Jacques the Fatalist and his Master (N.Y.U.); F. L. Lucas, The Art of Living: Four Eighteenth-Century Minds (Hume, Horace Walpole, Burke, Franklin) (Macmillan); R. J. Mitchell, A Country Doctor in the Days of Queen Anne (Longmans); Marjorie Nicolson, Mountain Gloom and Mountain Glory: The Development of the Aesthetics of the Infinite (Cornell); E. E. Rich, The History of the Hudson Bay Company, 1670-1870, Vol. I (1670-1763), (Hudson's Bay Record Society); Caroline Robbins, Eighteenth-Century Commonwealthman (Harvard); P. A. Scholes, ed., Dr. Burney's Musical Tours in Europe (Oxford); William B. Todd, New Adventures among Old Books, An Essay in Eighteenth-Century Bibliography (Univ. of Kansas); R. R. Wark, ed., Reynolds' Discourses on Art (Huntington Library); Ellis Waterhouse, Gainsborough (Edw. Hulton).

Recent paperbacks: Boswell's Tour of the Hebrides, introd. T. C. Livingstone (Norton); Burns's Poems and Songs, introd. James Barke (Norton); Defoe's Robinson Crusoe (Pts. I & II), introd. Frederick Brereton (Norton); Oliver Goldsmith, ed. George Pierce Baker (Mermaid Drama-book). J. W. Krutch's Five Masters (includes an essay on Richardson) has been re-printed by Midland-Indiana U. P.

B. Sprague Allen's Tides in English Taste (2 vols.) has been re-printed by Pageant Books.

MISCELLANEOUS NEWS ITEMS

By the time this issue of JNL reaches you, Jim Clifford, your senior editor, will have returned from abroad and taken up the reins well in advance of our next number in September. As before, mail should be addressed to him at 610 Philosophy. To all those who contributed material so generously to JNL during the past year, your assistant editor extends his sincere thanks, not only for making his task easier but for confirming beyond doubt the solidarity of the world of eighteenth-century scholarship.

Some of you may have already seen a copy of the British Commonwealth Literature Newsletter, devoted, as

the title suggests, to an important but often neglected area of literary effort. Those of you who may be interested in subscribing or otherwise finding out more about BCLN's scope and purpose should write to its enthusiastic and hard-working founder, Professor Joan Corbett, Box 248, University of Richmond, Richmond, Va. We wish all success to this latest addition to the ranks!

The Mermaid Theatre at Puddle Dock in Blackfriar's, London's first new theatre in twenty-six years and the first in the City for over 250 years, presented its first production on May 28, a musical play entitled Lock Up Your Daughters, adapted by Bernard Miles from Fielding's comedy Rape Upon Rape; or, The Justice Caught in his own Trap (1730) This was the first professional performance of the play, in any form, since its original presentation. Jim Clifford writes that it is a hilarious show.

For those of you who will be in England during the summer: beginning in June the Library of Winchester College will hold an exhibition to commemorate the bicentennial of the death of William Collins.

On April 4 Ronald Crane gave a lecture at Oxford on the fourth book of Gulliver. We understand that it was a superb address, but unfortunately we have no specific information about his thesis.

In the Canadian Author and Bookman for Winter 1958-59 appears an enthusiastic review and brief profile of Joyce Hemlow, concerning, of course, her definitive History of Fanny Burney (Oxford).

Alfred W. Hesse (Connell More, 107, Old Bath Road, Cheltenham, Gloucestershire), who is at present gathering material for a biography of Nicholas Rowe, will welcome information about any letters, documents, or other memorabilia concerning him. And David Irwin (Univ. of London, Courtauld Inst. of Art, 20 Portman Square, London, W. 1), who is studying the writings of the principal English neo-classical artists, in an attempt to analyze this aspect of eighteenth-century taste, is particularly anxious to hear about manuscript letters, journals, and any other documents in private possession, either by or relating to John Flaxman, Henry Fuseli, Benjamin West, James Barry, and Gavin Hamilton.

The Pepys Library at Magdalene College, Cambridge, will be temporarily shut for a few months until Pepys's books and presses are moved into the room, in the same building, where

they were originally housed when the library arrived at the college in 1724. The collection has been in its present room for more than a century.

In the New Yorker for February 28 appeared an advertisement by a noted firm of investment brokers, who quote Johnson's comment on the sale of Thrall's brewery: "We are not here to sell a parcel of boilers and vats, but the potentiality of growing rich, beyond the dreams of avarice." The advertisement praises the "shrewd doctor" for putting his finger on "the motive behind most human endeavor," and proceeds to warn its readers to invest with caution rather than with the hope of satisfying their lust for gold. We wonder if the writers would have praised the "shrewd doctor" had they read any of his acid comments on the art of puffing.

In England and New York a number of outstanding performances of Handel have been presented to commemorate the 200th anniversary of the composer's death. The BBC recently offered Alcina in an abridged concert form, as well as L'Allegro, Il Penseroso, ed Il Moderato. During March and April New Yorkers enjoyed, as part of the City's six-week Handel Festival, outstanding performances at Carnegie Hall of Acis and Galatea, The Passion According to St. John, and The Messiah. An exhibition commemorating both Purcell and Handel will continue through August 15 at the British Museum. There are almost 250 items on view; printed catalogues are available.

In our December issue (p. 11) we printed "A Correction" by Spiro Peterson of the Augustan Reprint Society publication, Henry Fielding, The Voyages of Mr. Job Vinegar from The Champion. The item sent at least one of our readers to his typewriter. Sheridan Baker (Univ. of Mich.) writes as follows: "Correcting a correction: if both the recent corrector of the Augustan Reprint of Henry Fielding/The Voyages...and its editor will look on page 12, they will see, as I suppose others have, that Fielding made a second reference to Robinson Crusoe a little more than four months after his first, which the editor takes to be 'Fielding's only reference to Defoe's novel'."

SOME RECENT ARTICLES

For the Restoration and early eighteenth century: John M. Aden, "Dryden and the Imagination: The First Phase," PMLA for March; Y. Chalon, "Les Saisons de J. Thomson. Autour de leur Dedicace française," Revue de Litterature Comparee for Jan.-March; Arthur L. Cooke, "James Thomson and William

Hinchliffe," JEGP for Oct.; John Heath-Stubbs, "Baroque Ceremony: a Study of Dryden's 'Ode to the Memory of Mistress Anne Killigrew' (1686)," Cairo Studies in English (1959); John L. Kimmey, "John Cleveland and the Satiric Couplet in the Restoration," PQ for Oct.; Pierre Legouis, "The Original of Dorset's Lampion on Madame de Maintenon," MLR for Jan.; A. E. Wallace Maurer, "Dryden's Absalom and Achitophel," Explicator for May; Alan D. McKillop, "Thomson and the Licensors of the Stage," PQ for Oct.; John Robert Moore, "Alexander's Feast: A Possible Chronology of Development," PQ for Oct.; Albert Rosenberg, "Defoe's Pacificator Reconsidered," PQ for Oct.; David M. Vieth, "Etherage's Man of Mode and Rochester's 'Artemisa to Cloe'," N&Q for Nov.; and Rochester's 'Scepter' Lampion on Charles II," PQ for Oct.; John A. Winterbottom, "The Place of Hobbesian Ideas in Dryden's Tragedies," JEGP for Oct.; Calhoun Winton, "Steele and the Fall of Harley in 1714," PQ for Oct.; James Dean Young, "Mandeville: A Popularizer of Hobbes," MLN for Dec.; Jeffrey Hart, "Akenside's Revision of The Pleasures of Imagination," PMLA for March.

For Pope and Swift: Daniel P. Deneau, "Pope's 'Iv'ry Gate': The Dunciad, III, 340," MLN for March; William D. Ellis, Jr., "Thomas D'Urfey, the Pope-Philips Quarrel, and The Shepherd's Week," PMLA for June; Paul Fussell, Jr., "Speaker and Style in A Letter of Advice to a Young Poet (1721), and the Problem of Attribution," RES for Feb.; Paul Lauter, "Belinda's Date," College English for Jan.; George P. Mayhew, "A Missing Leaf from Swift's 'Holyhead Journal,'" Bull. of John Rylands Library for March; George Sherburn, "Letters of Alexander Pope, Chiefly to Sir William Trumbull," RES for Nov.; James R. Wilson, "Swift's Alazon," Studia Neophilologica, Vol. XXX, No. 2 (1958); and "Swift, the Psalmist, and the Horse," Tennessee Studies in Lit., Vol. III (1958); T. G. Wilson, "The Mental and Physical Health of Dean Swift," Medical History, July 1958.

For the later period: Sheridan Baker, "Henry Fielding's The Female Husband: Fact and Fiction," PMLA for June; Fred L. Bergmann, "Garrick's Zara," PMLA for June; J. T. Boulton, "Exposition and Proof: The Apostrophe in Burke's Reflections," Renaissance and Modern Studies for 1957; Morris Golden, "A Goldsmith Essay in the Complete Magazine," N&Q for Nov.; and "Two Essays Erroneously Attributed to Goldsmith," MLN for Dec.; Lloyd N. Jeffrey, "Blake's 'The Little Black Boy'," Explicator for Jan.; Claude E. Jones, "The English Novel: A 'Critical' View, 1756-1785 (Part II)," MLQ for Sept.; Earl Miner, "The Making of The Deserted Village," HLQ for Feb.; Paul Miner, "William Blake's London Residences," Bull. of the

N. Y. Public Library for Nov.; M. Kinkead-Weekes, "Clarissa Restored," RES for May; Karl Koralis, "James Hogg and William Blake," N&Q for Jan.; and "Joyce and Blake: A Basic Source for 'Finnegans Wake'," Mod. Fict. Studies for Winter 1958-59; Stewart S. Morgan, "The Damning of Holcroft's Knave or Not? and O'Keefe's She's Eloped," HLO for Nov.; Milton Orowitz, "Smollett and the Art of Caricature," Spectrum for Fall 1958; Derek Roper, "Smollett's 'Four Gentlemen': The First Contributors to the Critical Review," RES for Feb.; R. D. Spector, "Smollett's Use of 'Tsonnonthouan,'" N&Q for March; Guy Stern, "A German Imitation of Fielding: Musäus' Grandison der Zweite," Comp. Lit. for Fall 1958; Susie Tucker, "Christopher Smart and the English Language," N&Q for November.

Of general interest: Ralph Cohen, "David Hume's Experimental Method and the Theory of Taste," ELH for Dec.; Rosalie L. Colie, "Spinoza and the Early English Deists," JHI for Jan.; Jim Corder, "Spenser and the Eighteenth-Century Informal Garden," N&Q for Jan.; Marlies K. Danziger, "Heroic Villains in Eighteenth-Century Criticism," Comp. Lit. for Winter 1959; James Doolittle, "A Would-Be philosophe: Jean Philippe Rameau," PMLA for June; Anthony Flew, "Hume's Check," The Philosophical Quarterly for Jan.; W. R. Irwin, "Prince Frederick's Mask of Patriotism," PQ for July 1958; Claude E. Jones, "Dramatic Criticism in the Critical Review, 1756-1785 (Part I)," MLQ for March; W. Powell Jones, "Science in Biblical Paraphrases in Eighteenth-Century England," PMLA for March; Ernest C. Mossner, "Hume at La Fleche, 1735: An Unpublished Letter," Texas Studies in English for 1958; Thomas Nagel, "Hobbes's Concept of Obligation," The Philosophical Review for Jan.; S. Radice, "Mr. Cox the Traveller," N&Q for Nov. and Dec.; Arthur Sherbo, "The Case for Internal Evidence," Bull. of the N. Y. Public Library for Jan.; R. B. Sheridan, "The Commercial and Financial Organization of the British Slave Trade, 1750-1807," EHR for Dec.; F. W. Steer, "The Account Book of William Norwich," N&Q for Nov.--gives the expenses for the education of a boy in 18th-century Eton; Ian D. S. Ward, "George Berkeley: Precursor of Keynes or Moral Economist on Underdevelopment?" Journ. of Pol. Econ. for Feb; John C. Weston, Jr., "A Fragment of a New Letter by David Hume in Defense of his History of England," N&Q for Nov.; Aline Mackenzie Taylor, "The Patrimony of James Quin: The Legend and the Facts," Tulane Studies in English, 1958.

Although it is not directly related to our interests, we urge you to read Doris Langley Moore's article, "The Burning of Byron's Memoirs," Cornhill for Winter 1958-59. Based on much

new evidence, it gives the full, horrifying story of the destruction of papers of great value.

The University of Oregon has published a useful Cumulative Index for Volumes I to X (1949-1958) of Comparative Literature. The June 1959 Explicator indexes Volume XVII (Oct. 1958--June 1959) and includes a Check List of Explanation for 1958.

TRIBUTE TO JOHNSON

From Arthur Sherbo (Mich. State) we have received the following, and include it as an item nicely appropriate to this anniversary year. Writes Sherbo: "The opening essay (actually labelled an 'introduction') of the second volume of The Student, or the Oxford and Cambridge Monthly Miscellany, entitled 'On Gratitude,' ends with a tribute to Johnson that is, I believe, little known. After the author, speaking for the combined editors of The Student, disclaims any intention knowingly to borrow from his contemporaries, he adds,

There is one gentleman indeed from whom we should be proud to borrow, if our plan forbade it not; and, since our text is GRATITUDE we beg leave to return acknowledgements to him for the noble and rational entertainments he has given us, we mean the admirable author of the RAMBLER, a work that exceeds any thing of the kind ever published in this kingdom, some of the SPECTATORS excepted--if indeed they may be excepted. We own ourselves unequal to the task of commending such a work up to its merits--where the diction is the most high-wrought imaginable, and yet, like the brilliancy of the diamond, exceeding perspicuous in its riches--where the sentiments ennoble the style, and the style familiarizes the sentiments--where everything is easy and natural, yet everything is masterly and strong. May the publick favours crown his merits, and may not the English, under the auspicious reign of GEORGE the Second, neglect a man, who, had he lived in the first century, would have been one of the greatest favourites of AUGUSTUS.

While I do not wish to claim this praise of Johnson for Christopher Smart, the busiest of those involved in The Student, I should like to think of it privately as his."

GOLDSMITH'S INEPTNESS

We are indebted to Mary E. Knapp (Western College for Women) for the following note:

"In Ralph Wardle's recent life of Goldsmith there appear the well-known comments that William Cooke made about Goldsmith's ineptness in conversation: 'Sir, he was a fool. The right word never came to him. If you gave him back a bad shilling he'd say, "Why, it's as good as ever was born." You know he ought to have said coined. Coined, Sir never entered his head. He was a fool, Sir.'

"With Goldsmith's odd use of the word 'born' should be compared Swift's report in The Journal to Stella, September 28, 1710: 'I have the finest piece of Brazil tobacco for Dingley that ever was born.' No one would set this down as a blunder in vocabulary or call Swift a 'fool.' It appears that both Swift and Goldsmith were using a common Irishism."

QUERIES AND ANSWERS

T. C. Duncan Eaves and Ben Kimpel, both of the University of Arkansas, are at work on a biography of Samuel Richardson and an edition of his correspondence and would appreciate hearing of any manuscript letters (or other material by or relating to him) which are in the hands of private collectors or among the holdings of smaller public libraries.

Two of our readers have responded to Arthur Sherbo's request (Oct., p. 4) for examples of sentence fragments from the accepted canon of Johnson's work. Clarence Tracy (Saskatchewan) writes: "The second 'sentence' of the Life of Savage is undoubtedly an incomplete construction in all the early editions, though the fact is concealed in the later ones by the alteration of the full stop after 'station' to a colon. However, it is not at all clear that Johnson meant it to be a sentence fragment. I suspect that he got lost in the complexity of his own clauses and did not realize that his sentences had gone wrong. Clearly there is no good reason for holding him responsible for the colon. He may have intended to wind up with 'I do not know,' using a familiar pattern, and simply failed to write down on paper what he had in his mind." Donald J. Winslow (Boston Univ.) draws attention to two additional fragments in the Review of a Free Inquiry (Soame Jenyns). He writes as follows: "If you have at hand the Rinehart Edition of Johnson..., they are on page 204, second paragraph: 'To imagine that we are going forward when we are only turning round. To think that there is any difference between him that gives no reason, and him that gives a reason, which by his own confession cannot be conceived.' If you do not have this edition at hand, you may find the passage in The Works of Samuel Johnson (Arthur Murphy Edition, 1810), VIII, 45."